



**Recharge East Winter Garden Community Meeting**  
**Meeting highlights**  
**March 19, 2015**

**In attendance:**

Xerxes Snell – East Winter Garden CDC

James Dyson – East Winter Garden CDC

Henry Dudley – West Orange Citizen Action

Charlie Mae Wilder – Winter Garden Community Garden and Bethlehem

Lynette Fields – St Luke’s United Methodist Church of Windermere

Adam Hartnett – St. Luke’s United Methodist Church of Windermere

Bobby Olszewski – Winter Garden City Commissioner

Todd Ruopp – Unleashing Performance

Wallace Wilson – West Orange Habitat for Humanity

Patrice Phillips – West Orange Habitat for Humanity

James Gustino – West Orange Habitat for Humanity

Larry Cappleman – Winter Garden CRA Advisory Board

Charlie Roper – Winter Garden CRA Advisory Board

Alan Haughey – Winter Garden CRA Advisory Board

Sandy Schupp – Winter Garden CRA Advisory Board

Joy Boulter – Winter Garden CRA Advisory Board

Mike Bollhoefer – City of Winter Garden

Kelly Carson – City of Winter Garden

Steve Pash – City of Winter Garden

George Brennan – City of Winter Garden

Mike Kelley – City of Winter Garden

Tanja Gerhartz – City of Winter Garden

Mike Bollhoefer, Winter Garden City Manager, welcomed everyone and provided an introduction.

The City Manager talked about some of the projects the City has done in East Winter Garden over the years. He stressed that the measure has to be on outcomes and not on what has been done or how much money has been spent.

He talked about looking at the synergy that can be created by working together. He stressed that synergy wasn't everybody doing the same thing, but all the parts working toward a similar purpose causing a better outcome.

*Synergy - the interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations, substances, or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.*

Kelly Carson asked everyone to introduce themselves and then asked each representative group to describe what they were currently doing in East Winter Garden. All 22 participants introduced themselves and talked about what they were working on in East Winter Garden. A brief summary for each organization is as follows:

St. Luke's United Methodist Church of Windermere - *Collaborating with EWG CDC, Community Garden, Maxey Elementary, West Orange Habitat for Humanity, Kid's Café and Boys and Girls Club*

- *Improve Housing – rehab and new*
- *Improve household income*
- *Increase school readiness*
- *Increase sense of general well-being*

West Orange Habitat for Humanity

- *Fundraising for new homes*
- *Lots*
- *Home construction*
- *Families*
- *Community Partners*

East Winter Garden Community Development Corporation

- *Housing Rehab for Seniors and Disabled*

Winter Garden CRA Advisory Board

- *Affordable housing*
- *Neighborhood revitalization through infrastructure improvements*

- Provide coordinated support to active groups

#### City of Winter Garden

- Community revitalization
- Housing assistance and rehab
- Community support and involvement
- Code Enforcement
- Basic city services – public safety, parks and recreation and public services (water, sewer, roads, sidewalks, garbage collection and storm water)

#### What are the issues:

- Identify Community Center space for teenagers during evenings and weekends– existing facilities close early
- Revitalize business district
- Provide micro loans for businesses
- House Facade Grant
- Housing rehab and assistance
- Promote home ownership and deal with criminal element
- Absentee landlords
- Title issues with purchasing property
- Citizen engagement and volunteerism

Everyone acknowledged that we should continue meeting and the City agreed to schedule another meeting within 30 days.

It was agreed to invite leadership from some additional churches to the next meeting.

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup>.